## Local Government Mandate Statement Kentucky Legislative Research Commission 2018 Regular Session

**Part I: Measure Information** 

Bill Request #: 202				
Bill #: SB 227				
<b>Document ID #:</b> 6014				
Bill Subject/Title: AN ACT relating to voter registration.				
Sponsor: Sen. Gerald Neal				
Unit of Government: City x County x Urban-County Unified Local				
x Charter County x Consolidated Local x Government				
Office(s) Impacted: County clerks				
Requirement: x Mandatory Optional				
Effect on Powers & Duties: x Modifies Existing x Adds New Eliminates Existing				

## Part II: Bill Provisions and the Estimated Fiscal Impact Relating to Local Government

SB 227 amends KRS 116.045 to permit voter preregistration for persons at the minimum age of 16 years. The Act requires the Secretary of State to provide assistance and interpretation for preregistration and requires the State Board of Elections to promulgate administrative regulations to provide for preregistration.

SB 227 amends KRS 116.046 to require county clerks to provide preregistration forms to certain public high schools and vocational schools, and to private schools if requested.

The fiscal impact of SB 227 is minimal to moderate. The voter preregistration program proposed in SB 227 creates a new responsibility for county clerks which could periodically require significant staff time. For an estimated 26 to 28 thousand students statewide, county clerks will need to adopt these forms, distribute them to schools, perhaps provide assistance with filling out the forms, follow up on any incomplete forms, process, record, and store them. With a new preregistration system, clerks will likely have to maintain a separate filing system for the preregistered, and then

move an individual's preregistration to the registered system once the individual turns 18.

The extent of the effort required will depend on how many young people choose to preregister and when the bulk of the preregistrations are submitted to the county clerk's office. Although SB 227 will increase county clerk office workload, this work can be done with existing staff and a minimum amount of time or, perhaps, overtime. Frequently, forms completed off site are submitted without a signature or with incomplete information. Processing forms that are not completed at the county clerk's office often require more processing time. When this happens, the clerk's office may spend additional time contacting the applicant by phone or mail in order to complete the application. Also, it could become problematic for the county clerk's office if a large number of preregistrations are submitted near the deadline for voters to be registered to vote in the next election, since this is a peak time for clerks, particularly in the larger counties.

## Part III: Differences to Local Government Mandate Statement from Prior Versions

The Part II section above pertains to the bill as introduced and there are not any prior introduced versions of the bill to complete the Part III section.

Data Source	. ,	ntucky County Clerks Association; LRC staff; ections; Jefferson County Board of Elections	Kentucky State Board of
Preparer:	H. Marks	Reviewer:	Date: